

Spatial Data Infrastructure – Africa Newsletter

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SDI-Africa Newsletter

May 2005

Vol. 4, No. 5

Spatial Data Infrastructure - Africa (SDI-Africa) is a free electronic newsletter for people interested in GIS, remote sensing, and data management issues in Africa. It aims to raise awareness and provide useful information to strengthen national SDI initiatives and support synchronization of regional activities. The [Executive Working Group of CODI-Geo](#) and [EIS-AFRICA](#) are regional fora that are promoting SDI development.

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Please mention SDI-Africa as a source of information in correspondence you may have about items in this issue.

If you have news or information related to GIS, remote sensing, and spatial data infrastructure that you would like to highlight (e.g., workshop announcements, publications, reports, websites of interest, etc.), kindly send them in. I'd be happy to include your news in the newsletter.

PLEASE share this newsletter with colleagues who may find the information useful, and ideally they will subscribe themselves.

Back issues of the newsletter are at the GSDI website: <http://www.gsdi.org/newsletters.asp>

Best regards, Kate Lance, Editor, lancekt@aya.yale.edu

Message from the Editor

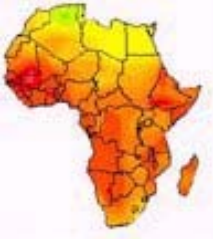
Dear colleagues,

We know geotechnology is a growth area... but how well do others outside the geospatial community know this? Last year, geotechnology was identified as one of three most important emerging and evolving fields, along with biotechnology and nanotechnology (Nature Magazine, Vol. 427, 22 January 2004). A recent issue of The Economist (21 April 2005, Vol. 375, No. 8423, p.11) highlighted the role that earth observation plays in environmental economics:

"Thanks to technologies such as satellite observation, computing and the internet, green accounting is getting cheaper and easier... If governments invest seriously in green data acquisition and coordination, they will no longer be flying blind."

The better that the geospatial community uses geotechnology for market applications and develops concrete measures of social and economic impact, the more recognition the community will have in mainstream economic circles. In the same vane, the geospatial community could better assess the political, economic and technical trends impacting the geospatial industry. With this in mind, I encourage you to participate in the [global study of international remote sensing markets for aerial and satellite data technologies](#), sponsored by NOAA, which is highlighted in this month's SDI-Africa issue. The survey includes a five- and 10-year analysis of the global geospatial market, and the results will be publically available (by the end of 2005). Furthermore, the GSDI Association contacted those conducting the survey and asked that the African region be incorporated into the survey design, so that the African market could be distinguished from and compared to the other regions already included in the survey. The survey implementers readily agreed. So, please take a few minutes (an estimated 5-8 minutes) to complete the appropriate multiple-choice survey.

On the topic of surveys, and not to over-burden you, but ISO/TC211 is also conducting a [global survey on geographic information standards](#) that is significant to the geospatial community. The Focus Group on Data Providers aims to better understand the requirements of data producers regarding geographic information standards;



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it is vital that the standards produced are appropriate, meet the needs of the sector, are workable, and are produced and revised in a timely manner. This requires ongoing liaison with all stakeholders - worldwide. By completing the survey, you can ensure that future planned activities take African needs into account. Regards, Kate

Input to this Issue

Thank you to Derek Clarke, Ministry of Land Affairs (South Africa); Reuben Mavima, University of Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe); Glenn Hyman, CIAT/CGIAR Consortium for Spatial Information (Colombia); Mark Lemaire, Natural Resources Canada (Canada / Tunisia); Issa Coulibaly, Institut Géographique du Mali (Mali); and Clare Hadley, Ordnance Survey (U.K.) for their contributions to this issue of the newsletter.

SDI News, Links, Papers, Presentations

[Proceedings now are available from the 8th International Conference of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure \(GSDI-8\) and FIG Working Week](#)

The conference, held 16-21 April 2005 in Cairo, Egypt, was attended by almost 900 participants from almost 80 countries. In the conference programme there were more than 400 papers and poster presentations in more than 50 technical sessions and 7 pre-conference workshops. Summaries of the conference are available at the [GSDI](#) and [FIG](#) websites. **Note that the dates for the 9th International Conference of the GSDI have been revised. GSDI-9 is now scheduled for 6-10 October 2006 in Santiago, Chile**, organized by the [GSDI Association](#) & [Instituto Geográfico Militar](#). Contact: gsdi9@igm.cl.

The [12th International Steering Committee for Global Mapping Meeting](#) also was held in Cairo, 17 & 21 April 2005, and details should be available online at the ISCGM website shortly.

[Speeches and presentations from CODI IV - "Information as an Economic Resource"](#) are online. Resolutions, papers, and additional presentations should be online shortly (so check back at the CODI-IV website). CODI-IV was held 23-28 April 2005 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Sub-themes included e-Commerce, Open Source Software, Poverty Reduction, Intellectual Property Rights, Statistics and NEPAD, Systems of National Accounting, Knowledge Sharing, Information Access and Information Dissemination.

[La Politique Nationale de Cartographie et de Topographie \(du Mali\)](#)

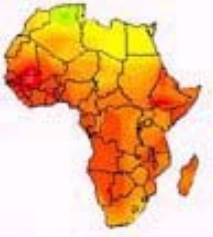
Conscient de l'importance de la cartographie dans l'exécution de tous les projets et programmes d'actions pour un développement harmonieux et durable du pays, et compte tenu de sa vaste campagne de décentralisation, le Gouvernement du Mali, à travers sa politique générale et le plan d'actions du Ministère de l'Urbanisme et de l'Habitat, se propose d'améliorer l'état actuel de la couverture cartographique de son territoire national. Aussi, il milite en faveur d'une cartographie multi-fonctionnelle, à jour et universelle dont la production reposera sur l'utilisation des compétences nationales, des ressources matérielles financières et technologiques disponibles et toutes les opportunités nouvelles y afférentes. A cet effet, la présente politique Nationale de Cartographie et de Topographie s'inscrit dans les préoccupations du Gouvernement du Mali et lui permet de créer les conditions appropriées de production autonome de documents cartographiques et topographiques de développement. Aussi, elle se propose de favoriser la promotion du secteur privé national de la cartographie et de la topographie. Regards aussi le [Decret de Comité National d' Information Géographique \(CNIG\)](#) (1335k) .

[Tunisian national geomatics program \(GEONAT\) website officialy launched 26 April 2005](#)

GEONAT is a national geomatics program that will provide Tunisia with a geospatial data infrastructure, making geomatics an important economic lever and establishes it as an activity that contributes to sustainable development.

[Programme National de Géomatization de Tunisia / Tunisian National Geomatics Program](#) ([brochure, in English and Arabic](#) - 2831k)

La Tunisie a entrepris, il y a quelques années, un programme national de géomatization (GÉONAT). Ce dernier vise la coordination nationale d'une infrastructure d'information géographique numérique faisant, entre autres, de la



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géomatique " ... un important levier économique et l'inscrivant comme une activité participative au développement durable en Tunisie". Ce site contient différentes informations relatives à la mise en place de la stratégie nationale tunisienne de géomatique (GÉONAT). Dans un contexte où plusieurs ministères et organismes ont procédé à la mise en place de systèmes d'information géographique qui répondent à leurs besoins spécifiques sectoriels mais qui ne sont pas nécessairement compatibles, Géonat vise à la coordination nationale d'une infrastructure d'information géographique numérique faisant, entre autres, de la Géomatisation. [Comité de Concertation et de Coordination de la Géomatique \(ICCG\) – structure fonctionnelle de l'ICCG](#)Contact: Direction Générale de l'Aménagement du Territoire (DGAT), DGAT@email.ati.tn

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has been cooperating with the Tunisian government by providing technology transfers to assist in designing a national infrastructure for digital geographical data. Investments are estimated at [USD 4.30 million over three years](#), provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for which NRCan is an executive agent.

[L'Institut Géographique du Burkina Faso a développé un site web](#)

Vos commentaires et suggestions seront appréciés. Contact: Claude Obin Tapsoba, Directeur Général, institut.geog@fasonet.bf.

[New National Atlas of Kenya is released](#)

The Ministry of Lands and Housing released on 13 April 2005 the 245-page hard cover copy and another in digital form. The atlas will be updated after 10 years. It depicts Kenya's physical characteristics, including natural and human resources, history, economic activities, education, government structures and culture, and other details. The Ministry is computerising all its information systems and soon, Kenyans will be able access them "wherever they are". The Ministry of Lands and Housing has received some financial commitments to finance the creation of a national land policy, computerise information, and assist in general planning. The Ministry recognizes that "it is cumbersome when citizens want information on their own land to come all the way from Kitale (to Nairobi). This will be a thing of the past." [Source: allafrica.com]

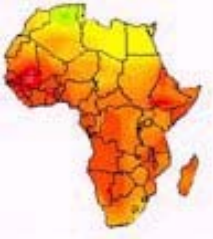
National Spatial Information Framework (South Africa) GIS Seminar - "GIS applications in business". May 13, 2005, Gauteng, South Africa. [NSIF](#) is organizing these seminars as a mechanism to share experiences and information that could prove valuable for others, as well as to pave the way to collaboration on future projects. For more information contact either Pinky Seremo-Dhlamini or Madeleen Muller, oseremo@csg.pwv.gov.za / Mmuller@csg.pwv.gov.za. Tel. number: (012) 322 5400.

[Report from the Tanzania Socio-Economic Database Thematic Seminar \(Theme: Environment\)](#)

Research on Poverty Alleviation, REPOA, in collaboration with UNDP through the Vice President's Office, and the National Bureau of Statistics held a TSED thematic seminar from the 28-30th of June 2004, Bagamoyo, Tanzania. This was the third seminar to be conducted, and the theme was on environment. Thirty-five participants attended the seminar representing the government institutions/ministries, research and environmental institutions and NGOs.

[Burkina Faso - Development of the National Statistical System](#)

The development community has recently seen a shift in strategy and more emphasis is being placed on evidence-based policymaking, measurable goal setting, and effective monitoring systems through Poverty Reduction Strategies and increased efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. This has focused national and international attention on the gaps, accuracy and the timeliness of statistical data in Burkina Faso. As a result, there is increasing pressure on the National Statistical System to produce and disseminate relevant statistics that meet internationally accepted standards. A Statistical Master Plan was prepared by the government in June 2003 and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in July 2003. It is a long-term plan encompassing coordinated and coherent statistical activities consistent with the national development framework. This project is designed to enable the government to implement this plan with a view towards ensuring country ownership of policy evaluation and outcome monitoring in a sustainable manner. The financial and technical support provided through this project will help the government



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achieve development goals by strengthening the capacity of the national statistical system to generate reliable, timely and relevant socioeconomic data. [Project appraisal document](#) [Total project cost: \$13 million] Contacts: insd@cenatrin.bf, gdelaine@worldbank.org.

First invitation and call for papers - 5th FIG Regional Conference for Africa

The 5th FIG Regional Conference “Promoting Land Administration and Good Governance” will be organized by FIG and the Ghana Institution of Surveyors in Accra, Ghana 9-12 March 2006. This conference is co-sponsored by UN FAO, UN-Habitat, UN ECA, RECTAS, ISM, etc. This conference will also be the first FIG regional conference in West Africa. The deadline for abstracts is 10 November 2005.

Global study of international remote sensing markets for aerial and satellite data technologies

NOAA has commissioned a comprehensive research study of international remote sensing markets for aerial and satellite data technologies. This study includes a five- and 10-year analysis of the political, economic and technical trends impacting the remote sensing industry globally. A key aspect of this research will be completed by collecting information from respondents on-line. The surveys encompass political and economic trend information impacting the remote sensing industry, as well as technology information concerning the Aerial Film, Aerial Digital, Aerial Sensors, Satellites, and Remote Sensing Hardware and Software sectors. Individuals from all segments of the worldwide aerial and satellite remote sensing industry are invited to [participate in the study](#). Respondents may simply click on the appropriate link based on their background to complete this brief (5-8 minute) survey. Respondents may fill out more than one survey based on their areas of expertise and interest. The survey information is being collected real-time in order to obtain statistical research based on the current responses. Responses received by 31 May 2005 would be particularly helpful. The final research project will be publicly available and will be completed by the end of 2005. For more information on the project or to become a research team member, please call Global Marketing Insights, Inc. at +1-440-879-3100 or email sherryloy@globalinsights.com and refer to the NOAA Remote Sensing Research.

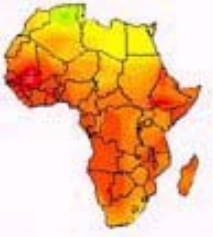
ISO Geographic Information Standards Survey

The development of standards in the area of geographic information has been ongoing for some years now, with a considerable number of standards in the ISO 19100 series developed by [ISO/ Technical Committee \(TC\) 211](#) and published since 2000. A key current focus for ISO/TC211 is the data provider community, and the Committee last year set up a [Focus Group on Data Providers \(FGDP\)](#). The Group's workplan includes the development of suitable support material, including guidance notes and good practice case studies, for data providers, thus supporting wide use of the standards by data providers, and therefore realising of the benefits arising from the use of standards.

As a first stage, the Group needs to confirm the requirements, and current state of standardisation, of data providers. To enable this, the Group has developed a web-based questionnaire. We would be very grateful if you could take some time (FGDP estimates that about 20 to 30 minutes will be required) to complete the questionnaire. In return for you completing the questionnaire, the Group will provide you with a copy of the summarised results from the questionnaire and will keep you informed of relevant developments in ISO/TC211. To ensure a broad base of responses, FGDP is keen to get a good number of returns, so please feel free to share/forward the survey links to other relevant contacts. Responses received by 20 May 2005 would be particularly helpful. For your convenience, a [printable version of the questionnaire](#), so that you can prepare your answers off-line, but you are kindly requested to use the [on-line questionnaire](#) for submitting your contribution. To complete the [on-line questionnaire](#), follow the on-screen prompts. FGDP extends ‘many thanks,’ in advance, for your support of this work.

NEPAD survey proposes African ICT database

The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) may establish a database on ICTs in Africa if it adopts the recommendations of a continental survey conducted under the ITU-NEPAD Preliminary Assistance Project. For ICT to take firm root on the continent, the project cited the need to establish a regional ICT Think Tank and continental regulatory associations to harmonise Africa's regulatory framework. In assessing the current status of e-strategies across most of Africa, the survey found that enabling laws to drive the initiative at national level are largely non-



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existent. The study's terms of reference were to assess the current situation of ICTs with the aim of identifying technical and regulatory obstacles that jeopardise the rapid development of infrastructure, services and applications. It also sought to identify technical alternatives for building the infrastructure.

[Mapping Africa for Africa \(MAFA\) fundamental geo-spatial data/user needs analysis](#)

Kindly note that a revised tender has been prepared for the Mapping Africa for Africa (MAFA) fundamental geo-spatial data/user needs analysis. [The previous tender announcement was mentioned in the February 2005 SDI-Africa newsletter]. Due to a technicality in the tender process and unforeseen complications regarding travel costs, the previous tender was cancelled. The amended terms of reference focus more on 'desktop' investigation and 'postal' questionnaire. The tender was published in the [South Africa Government Tender Bulletin](#), 8 April 2005, Tender No. SSC-WC 7/2005 DLA. Tenders must be submitted by 6 May 2005. Tenderers will not be restricted to South Africans but payment will be made to a South African Bank. This means tenderers will need to have a registered account in South Africa or alternatively work through an agent in South Africa. The draft report should be submitted by the consultant by 20 July 2005. Contact: Derek Clarke, Dclarke@sli.wcape.gov.za, Tel. 021 658-4301.

["Who pays for the Information Society? Challenges and Issues on financing the Information Society"](#)

A recently released publication (booklet) in two parts: the first part is a critique of the debates and work on financing so far conducted by the WSIS. The second part focuses more on proposals and aims to give a certain number of inputs to the WSIS debate, especially on the issue of international public financing or official development aid.

The final version of the [Global Spatial Data Workshop Report](#), held at CIESIN in September 2004, is now available for download in PDF. This workshop brought a core set of institutions actively involved in global spatial data and information development and dissemination together with representatives of key user communities to address both short- and long-term needs for coordination and collaboration. The overall purpose of the workshop was to coordinate spatial data and information dissemination among key actors in the global data community in order to better meet user needs at global as well as regional and national levels.

[Our Common Interest – Report for the Commission for Africa](#) (March 2005)

The Commission for Africa was launched by the British Prime Minister Tony Blair in February 2004. The aim of the Commission was to take a fresh look at Africa's past and present and the international community's role in its development path. The work set out to be comprehensive and challenging, addressing difficult questions where necessary. Five formal objectives were established to guide the Commission's work. It was tasked with finalizing its report by early 2005 and producing clear recommendations for the G8, EU and other wealthy countries as well as African countries. You are welcome to email your comments to the Commission, as Word documents only, to africa_secretariat@dfid.gov.uk writing "reaction to the report" in the subject line. Items received will be posted online as soon as possible.

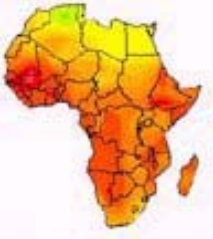
--highlight from state of Alaska, USA

[Corporate GIS Strategy, Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska - A Plan to Guide Corporate GIS For the Next One to Three Years](#), May 15, 2004, Version 1.0

"A local government (or several cooperating governments) should view the GIS project as an opportunity to introduce fundamental change into the way its business is conducted. As with the adoption of management and executive information systems in the business world, the adoption of GIS effectively reorganizes the data and information the government collects, maintains and uses to conduct its affairs. This can, and arguably should, lead to major changes in the institution, to improve both effectiveness and efficiency of operations."

-- highlight from the state of Minnesota, USA

[A Foundation for Coordinated GIS: Minnesota's Spatial Data Infrastructure](#) was developed as a roadmap to help Minnesota organizations more effectively achieve their business goals by using GIS. It presents the results of a two-year process to identify solutions to common technology and data needs of organizations using geospatial



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technologies to serve the people of Minnesota. The envisioned MSDI framework includes policies, standards, and practices that would improve the availability of needed data, promote integration of technology, encourage collaboration among organizations, and extend access to geospatial technologies to organizations that would not otherwise benefit from them. Achieving this vision would dramatically improve the effectiveness of state, local and regional programs ranging from public safety to natural resource management while also reducing technology costs. This strategic plan describes the foundation and its importance, identifies critical shared geospatial data and technology needs and how they are being met, and recommends actions required to implement a sustainable Minnesota Spatial Data Infrastructure.

--SDI news from Canada

[Future of Geomatics Policy in Canada](#)

The GeoConnections Policy Node and the Geomatics Industry Association of Canada held a series of policy workshops across Canada in 2004. A number of [key geomatics policy issues](#) facing the private sector and governments across Canada were discussed:

- What overall strategies for geomatics infrastructure should be a priority?
- How to define framework data?
- What data should be maintained as a public good?
- What partnership and delivery models can benefit both private sector and government?
- How can local governments be supported?
- How can access, distribution, and archiving of data be improved?
- What are the needs/issues of emerging geomatics markets?
- What are the needs/issues for land administration?

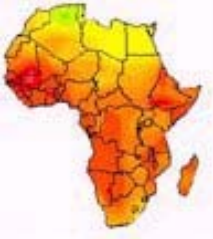
In the February 23, 2005 federal budget, the Government of Canada announced \$60 million for renewal of the GeoConnections/Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) Program. GeoConnections is partnering with Geomatics Industry Association of Canada on a cross-Canada series of one-day workshops that are providing the geographic information community an opportunity to input on the next five years of CGDI implementation. The series began on April 12 and will end with the Geomatics Leaders Forum on June 15-16, 2005 in Ottawa.

-- highlight from British Columbia, Canada

The [Integrated Cadastral Information Society \(ICIS\)](#) is a partnership of British Columbia's major utilities, provincial government ministries and crown corporations and local governments. ICIS's vision is a simple yet compelling one: to create a single source of high quality, integrated provincial land and land-related data. Provincial government ministries and agencies and major utilities support ICIS through human resources and data contributions and membership fees. Local governments contribute their land-related data. The task of gathering and integrating huge quantities of land-related data in many forms and of diverse standards is challenging. Business rules are evolving to enable technology. ICIS is designed to work with local governments to evaluate and fit land data to a provincial parcel base, and provide improved data for local use. Utilities and provincial government agencies add data to the base and benefits from its use. This is why ICIS has been formed. By pooling financial and human resources and data through our partners, a single source of land management data is within our reach.

[Call for papers - Survey Review](#)

Survey Review – an independent quarterly journal published continuously since 1931 – has decided to extend the scope of the editorial content of the journal to reflect not only developing technology and new analytical techniques in land surveying measurements, but also the growing diversity and complexity of ways in which those measurements are used, for example as data for use in information systems. Papers which bridge the gap between “site and system” are now to be included, provided they satisfy the usual editorial criteria. New members of the Editorial board have been appointed to advise the Editor and nominate specialist reviewers. Possible topics are: positional accuracy improvement in GIS; cadastre and data reconciliation in land information systems; the role of national mapping organizations; and the semantics of “site to system”. Instructions to authors can be obtained at the journal website.



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[Free access to RADARSAT data / Images radar gratuites offertes par CSA](#)

Mosaics are available at the national level (for each country), as well as a mosaics at the continental level. The request should come from African institutions. Contact: tidiane.ouattara@space.ge.ca. It is also possible to have 10 new images.

Il existe des mosaïques au niveau national (chaque pays africains) et des mosaïques au niveau continental (Afrique). Les demandes doivent provenir des institutions africaines. Il est possible d'avoir 10 nouvelles images. Contact: tidiane.ouattara@espace.ge.ca

[ERSDAC accepting observation requests of ASTER from general users](#)

Since November 2004, [ERSDAC](#) has been accepting observation requests from all users of ASTER data. The General Programming Request (GPR) is a service for users to submit observation requests to obtain high quality observation data at a low price. GPR is recommended especially for users who:

- Want to obtain the latest ASTER data of the specific area.
- Cannot find any data of interest from the data search of observed data.
- Want to obtain data observed in a specific season.

Only the data successfully observed are distributed to the users by GPR. Therefore, if the cloud cover rate was high and could not obtain the desired data, users are not required to purchase the data. Contact: Earth Remote Sensing Data Analysis Center, gpr_office@asterops.ersdac.or.jp.

[Satellite Images to 168 Countries for Monitoring Environmental Change](#)

UNEP in cooperation with NASA, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), EarthSat, Inc., and the University of Maryland are distributing these data sets to 168 countries to strengthen their capacity for monitoring environmental changes and enhancing the scientific basis for decision-making. This data set is also available for free download through The Global Land Cover Facility of the University of Maryland. See [Distribution list](#). The imagery was provided at no cost to these organizations/individuals. The recipients of the imagery have been encouraged to distribute relevant data to others at no more than the cost of distribution.

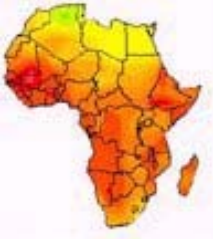
The [Global Urban Observatory](#) is developing guidelines, methods, databases and software in support of the work of urban observatories. Through its networking functions, the GUO helps coordinate capacity-building, training and technical assistance resources for monitoring progress in improving people's living environments and for expanding the base of knowledge. Some tools and benefits provided by the GUO network:

- Grants for technical equipment and support tools for website development are available to Local Urban Observatories located in least developed countries
- Training on using the urban indicator toolkit for data collection and analysis
- Training on GIS software and provision of GIS software (to a limited extent, upon special agreement)
- Information about urban development trends and activities through its Urban Observer newsletter
- Training on how to use the results of the urban indicators data for fund raising activities
- Conferences of the network members for information exchange and city-to-city networking
- Access to internet resources available at UN-Habitat's website including urban indicators databases
- Your data will be used for evaluations done for the global reports published biannually by UN-Habitat (Global Report on Human Settlements, State of the World Cities Report)

For more information about the GUO and our latest activities, visit our website or write an email or letter to: Global Urban Observatory, guo@unhabitat.org, Tel.: +254-2-623119 Fax: +254-2-623080.

[GIS Reference Manual](#)

Following is a copy of "Managing a Geographic Information System." The manual was developed by a third party and is provided compliments of GeoSmart (Ontario, Canada). It was originally designed as a reference manual for a training course; however, even as a stand alone manual, it provides invaluable guidance to managers and



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administrators confronted with the complex task of overseeing GIS resources and personnel. The manual draws from the experiences of professionals who have successfully implemented and managed GIS technology in their own organizations.

Geospatial Research, Applications, Reference Material

[Zimbabwe Tourism Authority GIS Database Data Collection Programme](#)

Zimbabwe Tourism Authority (ZTA) began a GIS Database Data Collection programme in November 2004, and the initial set up will continue up to December 2005. The Development of the GIS database is meant to benefit tourism operators and stakeholders in a number of ways. The functional database will feature every operator in the tourism industry, attraction sites in Zimbabwe, tourism activities, Tourism Designated Zones, CBTs among others. The database will be linked to ZTA website such that it is accessed world wide. Phase two of this exercise will see ZTA installing information kiosks at strategic centres such as the Harare International Airport, border posts, and selected hotels as well as at the foreign offices in China, South Africa, France, United Kingdom, USA and Malaysia. The success of this project requires cooperation from all stakeholders during the data collection period.

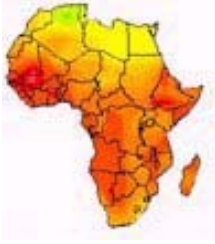
[New tourism map launched in Ghana](#)

A new tourist map that aimed to provide tourists with information on various attractions and to make them choose Ghana as their main destination was launched. The map, an initiative of Rudan Limited, a surveying and mapping firm, captures the various cultural, natural resources and entertainment depicted in the country's festivals and dancing forms across the length and breadth of the country. A special feature of the new map is a guide map of the Central Business District of Accra to help tourists find their ways easily through Accra, visit embassies and High Commissions, Airline Offices and other places of interest without having to depend on a guide. Launching it, Mr Martin Mireku, Executive Director of Ghana Tourists Board lauded the initiative and said government alone could not carry out the huge responsibility of meeting the needs of the tourism industry. Mr. Mireku stressed that producers of tourism materials should seek guidance from the Board in their production to ensure that accurate information is used.

[Improvement of availability of land registration and cadastral information in Ondo state, Nigeria](#), ITC, 2005, 137 p. Akingbade, A.O. This thesis looks at the challenge of making land and property related information available when needed from a geo-information management perspective. Relevant policies in Nigeria were reviewed and a theoretical framework was provided for the study. The South African success in LIService provision was cited as an example of a good practice in Africa. Organisational issues and changing institutional arrangements, partnership and cooperation with the private sector in land information provision were discussed. Facts or data were gathered from the study area to give a clear understanding of the present situation. The current circumstances were modelled and analysed, and the desired future was determined from users' requirements and use of the appropriate technology. Strategies and actions were provided to bridge the gap between the current situation and the desired future. A system referred to as Land Registration and Cadastral Infrastructure (LRCI) was developed from tested models and validated architecture. A Unified Service Centre (USC) was proposed as the 'doorway' of the infrastructure to provide one-stop solution, which is the main objective of this research. Five harmonising funding solutions were proposed for the LRCI. Guidelines and conditions for implementation of the proposed infrastructure were presented with issues for further studies.

[Evaluation of geoinformation market environment in East Africa](#), ITC, 2005. 96 p. Tukugize, C.

The research describes a number of issues from market theory by an eclectic choice with reference to four selected countries; United Kingdom, United States of America, Netherlands and South Africa. Furthermore, the research describes the situation of GI data production, exchange and use among the GI users and providers in East Africa based on the data collected in the field through interaction with the different stakeholders from the GI community of the three countries. The data collection results aims at comparing the existing situation in East Africa with the market

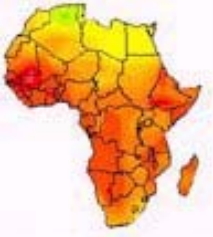


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theory; this allows a comparison between East Africa to European Union. A further analysis is conducted by the use of strategic planning tools, in particular scenario comparison. Three scenarios are developed to evaluate to what extent government intervention will contribute to the growth of the GI market using a six step strategic planning methodology developed by Morrison. This results in an overview of implications through a phased approach. It can be concluded that the GI market in East Africa is heterogeneous and still lacking proper government steering.

Mapping urbanisation for urban & regional governance

During 2002 and 2003, together with its partners in Nigeria, Pakistan, and Brazil, the Max Lock Centre carried out a scoping study on low cost mapping of urbanisation and urban areas. The study explored the potential for using readily



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Contact persons: Yazidhi Bamutaze, Makerere University, bamutaze@arts.mak.ac.ug, Dr. Cees van Westen, ITC, westen@itc.nl. Applications can come from:

- NFP alumni from Eastern Africa with interest in the field of disaster management that have studied in ITC or other Netherlands institutes for higher education in the period 1980 – 2003.
- Other interested persons, such as environmental scientists who are active in the field of earth sciences, (land and) water resources management, environmental management, hydrology, urban planning, disaster management, government organizations dealing with risk-related affairs, and relevant departments from academic organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

A number of fellowships are available for the course. NFP alumni will receive preference in the admission procedure. Applications with secured funding from other sources will also be given preference. Deadline for application is July 30, 2005.

[International Train-the-Trainers' Course in Application of Computer Technology to Natural Resources, August 2005](#), Yaounde, Cameroon, at the UNU-INRA Operating Unit at the University of Yaounde I, Cameroon. **[UNU-INRA](#)** contact persons: Professor Laure Pauline Fotso, Coordinator of UNU-INRA Operating Unit in Cameroon, University of Yaounde I, email: pfotso@uycdc.uninet.cm or l_fotso@yahoo.com and Dr. J.J. Baidu-Forson, Senior Research Fellow at UNU-INRA, Baidu-Forson@inra.unu.edu.gh.

[2005 session in Geodata Management Training at the Royal Museum for Central Africa \(R.M.C.A.\), Belgium](#), from August 1, 2005 till January 31, 2006.

Funding Opportunities, Awards, Support

[Research Capacity Strengthening Programme Grants 2005](#)

The UNICEF/UNDP/ World Bank/ WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) supports long-term institutional capacity building projects for research in tropical diseases in the least developed countries (LDCs) and other low income and high disease-burden countries with limited capacity for research. Research Capacity Strengthening (RCS) is a cross-cutting and cross-disciplinary area of TDR established to promote and fund research training and institutional development, so as to increase the participation of developing countries in the development and use of new tools for the diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control of communicable diseases. Letters of intent must be submitted and received by 31 May 2005. Contact: Dr Fabio Zicker, zickerf@who.int.

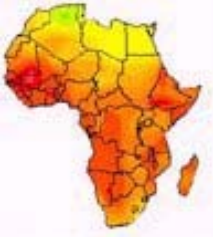
[Generation Fellowships](#)

Established to grant awards to carry out innovative research related to the themes of the Generation Challenge Program (GCP), the Generation Fellowships provide scientists from and working in developing countries the opportunity to conduct research outside of their home countries for a period of three months to one year. See [application form](#) and [additional guidelines](#). Deadline: 31 May 2005. Contact: Carmen de Vicente, c.devicente@cgiar.org.

[International Foundation for Science \(IFS\) Grant/Fellowships](#)

IFS is a research council with international operations and the mission to build the scientific capacity of developing countries in sciences related to the sustainable management of biological and water resources. Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources. This broad statement covers natural science and social science research on agriculture, soils, animal production, food science, forestry, agroforestry, aquatic resources, natural products, water resources, etc. Applications are accepted all year and are to be made on an IFS Application Form. Note as well **[Special joint calls for applications](#)**:

IFS occasionally issues calls for applications together with other partner or donor organizations. Researchers are encouraged to review the current special joint calls below.



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[Special Call on Sustainable Sanitation](#)

Strengthening Capacity for Research on Sustainable Sanitation and Grey-water Reuse in Developing Countries. IFS in partnership with Sida. Deadlines: [June 30, 2005](#) and [December 31, 2005](#).

[Special Call on Land Productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Strengthening Capacity for Research on land productivity (including soil water management, soil fertility restoration and maintenance etc.) and the management, use and conservation of indigenous plant genetic resource. IFS in partnership with UNU/INRA (United Nations University/Institute for Natural Resources in Africa. Deadline: [June 30, 2005](#).

[Special call Agriculture for Peace Fellowship applications](#)

African researchers applying for IFS grants, may apply for this extra fellowship which includes a 1-month stay at a Japanese university, if their project satisfies the criteria. IFS in partnership with UNU/IAS (United Nations University/Institute of Advanced Studies). Deadline: [June 30, 2005](#).

[Special call for Science and Technology Fellowship applications](#)

IFS in partnership with UNU/IAS (United Nations University/Institute of Advanced Studies). Deadline: [June 30, 2005](#).

[Special call for research on Water and Food](#)

IFS in partnership with CGIAR Challenge Program on Water & Food. Deadline: [June 30, 2005](#).

[Special Call on Water Research in OIC Countries](#)

Strengthening capacity in OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference) countries for water resources research. IFS in partnership with INWRDAM and COMSTECH. Deadlines: [June 30, 2005](#) and [December 31, 2005](#).

[URISA's Exemplary Systems in Government \(ESIG\) Award](#)

The Award, inaugurated in 1980 by the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, recognizes extraordinary achievement by government agencies in the use of automated information systems. This achievement is defined as the effective application of computer technology that can be measured in terms of improved government services and increased benefits to citizens. The award competition is open to all public agencies at the federal, state/provincial, regional and local levels. ESIG Award winners are recognized in two separate categories:

- Single Process Systems – Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of applying information system technology to automate a specific single process or operation involving one department or sub-unit of an agency. The system application results in extended and/or improved government services that are more efficient and/or save money.
- Enterprise Systems — Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of using information systems technology in a multi-department environment as part of an integrated process. These systems exemplify effective use of technology yielding widespread improvements in the process(es) and/or service(s) involved and/or cost savings to the organization.

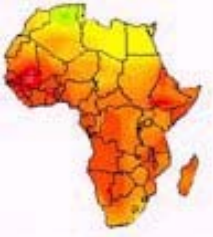
Applications must be submitted by [June 6, 2005](#). Winners in each category will be recognized at URISA's 43rd Annual Conference, October 9-12, 2005 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA.

[Ramsar Small Grants Fund - 2005 cycle - call for project proposals](#)

The Ramsar Small Grants Fund was established by Ramsar COP4 in 1990 as a mechanism to assist developing countries and those with economies in transition in implementing the Convention and to enable the conservation and wise use of wetland resources. Since that time, it has provided funding and co-funding, up to 40,000 Swiss francs (about US\$ 34,000) per project, for approximately 175 projects totaling about 7 million francs. The call for proposals is now being made for the 2005 cycle, with a deadline of [30 June 2005](#) for application and with a decision to be made by the Standing Committee around the end of the year.

[L'invitation à soumettre des propositions de projet pour le cycle FPS 2005](#)

Le Fonds Ramsar de petites subventions a été instauré par la Conférence des Parties contractantes (COP) à la Convention de Ramsar, à sa 4e session (1990) en tant que mécanisme destiné à aider les pays en développement et les pays dont l'économie est en transition à appliquer la Convention et à permettre la conservation et l'utilisation rationnelle des zones humides. Depuis lors, le FPS a accordé jusqu'à 40 000 francs suisses (approx. US\$ 34.000) par projet, pour quelque 175 projets dont le total se monte à environ 7 millions de francs suisses. L'appel à



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proposition est aujourd'hui lancé pour le cycle de 2005 et la date limite du dépôt des propositions est fixée au 30 juin 2005. Le Comité permanent prendra sa décision vers la fin de l'année.

[WCPA AND Partners announce two new awards for young conservationists](#)

The [IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas \(WCPA\)](#) announces two new awards to young people working in protected area and biodiversity related conservation. The first, an annual award for young conservation leaders, will be offered jointly by WCPA and the International Rangers Federation (IRF). The second award is made available through WCPA and the Consortium for International Protected Area Management (CIPAM) and will give two training scholarships to young professionals in protected areas each year. Contact Peter Shadie, pds@iucn.org.

[Royal Museum for Central Africa Scholarships on Biodiversity](#)

The [Royal Museum for Central Africa](#) is offering scholarships for scientific study visits on biodiversity. The scholarships target two categories of scientists: young African PhD students and African scientists with a substantial curriculum specialised in African biodiversity. Deadline for applications is May 30, 2005. See website for information concerning the fields of research, conditions and application requirements. Contact: Muriel Van Nuffel, Coordinatrice stages et sjours d'itudes, Musie Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, muriel.van.nuffel@africamuseum.be.

[STATCAP - A new lending program to support more efficient and effective statistical systems in developing countries](#)

Sustainable improvement in the statistical systems of developing countries – true capacity building – requires programs to increase both the demand for and the supply of statistics. STATCAP will provide flexibility in financing, including meeting recurrent costs, providing new means for financing investments and making best use of all sources of technical support and advice. It may focus on the development of statistics in specific sectors, or may finance the implementation of a comprehensive statistical development plan. It will support the long-term development of the national statistical system and may involve a series of separate grants or loans as appropriate. It will cover all aspects of statistical development and it is expected that individual country projects will include four main components:

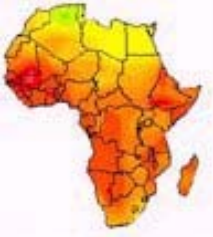
1. Improving statistical policy and the regulatory and institutional framework, including issues such as independence and confidentiality, the adequacy of legislation and the dialogue with data users;
2. Supporting the development of statistical infrastructure, including such aspects as business registers, sampling frames, classifications, database structures and geographic information systems;
3. Upgrading and developing statistical operations and procedures;
4. Providing investments in physical infrastructure and equipment.

[International Council for Caring Communities \(ICCC\) 2005 ICT Student Competition Guidelines](#)

The [ICCC](#) Competition invites students internationally who are concerned with the design, development and use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to apply their creative talents toward developing ICT solutions to enable the seamless integration of older persons into the fabric of their communities including the range of social, cultural, and economically productive activities. The presentation of finalists will be held at the World Summit for the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunisia, 2005 and are the highlight of an annual international conference under the general title "Caring Communities for the 21st Century: Imagining the Possible" held at the United Nations in New York during the annual meeting of the UN's Commission for Social Development. Entry forms are due by May 31, 2005 to the International Council for Caring Communities. Design project submissions must be received by September 1, 2005. [Competition Fact Sheet](#).

[Wellcome Trust Master's Research Training Fellowship](#)

The Wellcome Trust offers opportunities for research training under the Health Consequences of Population Change Programme. The programme focuses on the changing health outcomes resulting from demographic, socio-economic and lifestyle changes taking place in developing countries. These include migration, health issues of youth and ageing populations, fertility, urbanisation and the environment, risk behaviour shifts, and the adoption of 'developed country' lifestyles. As part of the programme, the Trust invites applications for Master's Research Training Fellowships.



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Candidates should be residents of the developing countries in Africa, Asia or Latin America, or the restructuring countries of Central and Eastern Europe, including the former Soviet Union. They should normally be educated at least to first-degree level in a relevant subject. The closing date for receipt of full applications is 1 July 2005.

Support for International Scientific Meetings

The Academy encourages the organization of international scientific meetings in Third World countries by providing financial support in the form of travel grants for principal speakers from abroad and/or participants from the region. Important: TWAS can only provide support to organizers of scientific events held in Third World countries to enable scientists from developing countries to attend their meetings. In other words, TWAS does not provide support to individual scientists wishing to attend a scientific event, even if the event is taking place in a developing country. Deadlines for applications: 1 December for meetings to be held during July-December of the following year. 1 June for meetings to be held during January-June of the following year

Employment Opportunities

Associate Programme Officer, P-2, Nairobi, Kenya

Under the direct supervision of the Programme Officer and the overall supervision of the Chief, Assessment Branch of the Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA), the Associate Officer will assist with the planning and implementation of all aspects of the follow-up to Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) decisions on strengthening the scientific base of UNEP in its ability to monitor and assess global environmental change, and also with implementation of the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD). This includes overall duties related to the provision of information, periodic reporting and the mobilisation of resources for these activities, as well as playing an active role in the development, implementation and review of the programme of work for the Assessment Branch of the Division of Early Warning and Assessment. Deadline: 20 May 2005. Vacancy Announcement No.: 05-PGM-UNEP-405703-R-NAIROBI.

Geekcorps Volunteer – Systems Integration, East Africa

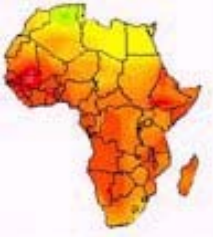
Geekcorps is in search of Systems Integration Professionals experienced in developing communication systems for integrating international border-related software. The volunteers will work in Kenya and Uganda to design an integration system that will link the immigration, police, customs and cargo tracking systems of Kenya and Uganda at the Malaba border crossing. At least 3-5 years of professional experience in systems integration including EDI and XML is a must. Knowledge of ASYCUDA, and GAINDE, and database design including MySQL preferred. Volunteers, of any nationality, willing to work with people and innovate in a developing country environment are needed immediately (May 2005) and would stay in East Africa about four months. Besides that warm & fuzzy feeling from doing good, Geekcorps offers international airfare and local private transportation, expatriate-level lodging, a generous per-diem and dedicated in-country staff. Daily challenges and rewards are guaranteed. Still interested? [Apply online](#).

Regional Director for Eastern Africa, IUCN Eastern Africa Regional Office, Nairobi, Kenya

This position requires competencies across a broad spectrum of subjects ranging from organizational management and financial planning to biodiversity and ecosystem-based resource management strategies and policies. Deadline: 13 May 2005.

GIS Expert, Lilongwe, Malawi

IPP Consultants is looking for a GIS expert (with a minimum of 10 years experience) for an 8-month assignment to Malawi. The assignment is due to start in May (approximately). Under the 7th and 9th EDF, € 197,605 funding has been provided to Malawi Geographic Information Council (MAGIC) and the [National Spatial Data Centre \(NSDC\)](#) to assist them to develop systems, a business model, working practices and capacity as well as encouraging the emergence of an enabling “policy environment”, within which NSDC and MAGIC can function as planned. The Technical Assistance will provide a consultant to enhance the technical capacity of the NSDC as well as assist NSDC



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to move towards self-sustenance through implementation and refinement of a business model. Contact: christianbianchi@ippconsultants.com.

GIS Training Specialist - Sudan Local Governance and Capacity Building through Strategic Participatory Town Planning, Rumbek, Southern Sudan

In order to assist the new Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) to respond effectively and in a timely manner to pressing population return and reintegration issues, as well as extend civil authority throughout the New Sudan, [Creative Associates International, Inc \(CAII\)](#) and the GOSS propose to expand a CAII/GOSS Rumbek pilot strategic participatory town planning project to four other priority GOSS urban areas. The program will draw on the four major activities and key lessons learned from the current pilot Rumbek strategic town planning project which include:

- Satellite Imagery, Survey benchmarks and referencing
- Digitized town map, structure plan and its resources
- Capacity building / technical training for municipal officials

The GIS Expert's responsibilities will include ongoing training of the GIS technicians and liaising with SPLM authorities and international agencies to determine worthwhile GIS projects the technicians might execute for their experiential learning post-graduation. These projects would initially be based in Rumbek, but subject to the priorities and direction of the SPI&TP might include other capitals as well. The GIS Expert will also provide general information technology support and trouble-shooting expertise. Project Duration: 6 months. Required skills and qualifications: masters degree in urban planning, architecture, public administration, or a related field; a minimum of 5 years experience using Computer based, GIS applications and tools in planning projects; Strong preference for field experience in East Africa settings, preferably in post-conflict or transitional settings; Strong preference for education / training experience with non-technical adult learners. Demonstrated experience in IT systems installation and maintenance. Send resume and cover letter by e-mail to recruitment@caii.com by May 10, 2005 with "GIS Training Specialist - Sudan Local Governance and Capacity Building" in the subject line. Only finalists will be contacted. No phone calls. [Source: DevNetJobs]

Executive Director, International Human Dimensions Programme, Bonn, Germany

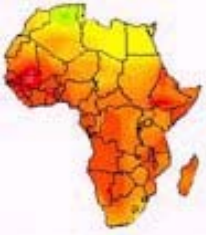
The International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC) invite applications for the position of Executive Director of the [International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change \(IHDP\)](#). The IHDP is an international, interdisciplinary and non-governmental science organisation, focussing on social and human dimensions of environmental change. The IHDP is dedicated to promoting, catalysing and coordinating research, capacity-building, and networking on the human dimensions of global environmental change. The IHDP, from a social science perspective, examines areas of concern for societies on global change and works at the interface between science and practice. The Executive Director, in co-operation with the Scientific Committee and the Chairperson, facilitates the expeditious development, implementation and evaluation of the IHDP Programme. An appointment under the terms of a secondment would also be possible. The position will be filled by 15 September 2005 or as soon as possible thereafter. Letters of application with a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be received no later than 15 June 2005 by the IHDP Secretariat, middel.ihdp@uni-bonn.de.

ITC Vacancies, The International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC), Enschede, The Netherlands invites qualified persons to apply for the following positions:

PhD Researcher (Promovendus) f/m - Reconstruction of detailed 3D city models from terrestrial sensor data. The focus of this research position is on the development, implementation and analysis of methods for the acquisition of detailed 3D city models by integration of data obtained from terrestrial laser scanners, panorama camera's and available 2D GIS information.

PhD Researcher (Promovendus) f/m - Reconstruction of 3D topography from laser scanner data and 2D geo-information. The focus of this research position is on the development, implementation and analysis of methods for the acquisition of 3D city models and 3D terrain models by integration of height data obtained with laser altimetry and available 2D geo-information.

Professor of Earth Surface Systems Analysis f/m, with emphasis on earth observation and geohazards



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The professor leads a chair-group (15 staff and 8 promovendi) that is responsible for initiating, coordinating and executing research, education and advisory services in geo-information science and earth observation applied to the understanding of surface geologic processes and related geohazards (e.g. earthquake, volcanic, landslide, flooding, soil erosion, land degradation) and the generation of risk scenarios.

The professor is required to develop and maintain excellence in the application of earth observation for geohazard assessment and monitoring, support the other research topics in the chair-group and to assure the scientific quality of the academic output of the chair-group. The research expertise of the professor should be in the use of earth observation for geohazard applications, such as the monitoring of hazardous processes, the extraction of parameters for hazard modeling, the extraction of relevant morphometric parameters for hazard assessment, and the generation of element at risk, vulnerability and risk maps.

[Principal Population Officer – Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Unit](#), Tunis, Tunisia

The incumbent will develop African Development Bank (ADB) Group policy and guidelines to guide Bank operations in population and related sectors for integration of population issues in other sector policies and operations. He/She will define the Bank's role in setting the international agenda on population and development, in particular in promoting the implementation of the International Conference on Population & Development (ICPD) Plan of Action. Applicants must be nationals of ADB member countries. ADB has a total of 77 member states comprising 53 regional (African) and 24 non-African countries. Contact: recruit@afdb.org. Deadline: 5 May 2005. Ref.: VAN ADB/05/029.

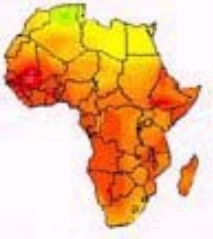
[Java Web Developer](#), Cairo, Egypt

Quality Standards Information Technology (QSIT) is looking for a 1+ year experience Java Web Developer to work on Huge Enterprise Solutions inside and outside Egypt. Required: Engineering background or Computer Science; good experience in J2EE (Servlets, Jsp and MVC Design Model); good experience in UML; good experience in Oracle 9i; GIS experience is a plus; .Net experience is a plus; mobile applications experience is a plus. Other skills: perfect command of English and Arabic; ambitious and self-confident; hard worker; self-motivated and has the ability to work under challenging time constraints; willing to learn; and team worker. Quality Standards Information Technology (QSIT) - part of ALKAN Group and founded in 1994 - operates in the field of CIT, with focus directed towards developing specialized, custom, enterprise-level Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Cadastral and Telecom applications. QSIT is the Authorized Distributor of ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute), SPACE IMAGING EURASIA (satellite images IKONOS), LANTMATERIET (owner of ArcCadastral), SPSS (Statistical Products And Service Solutions) and Inet (Telecom solution). Submit your CV to Miss Salma Adel, Development Department Coordinator, salma.adel@qs4it.com (with name the job vacancy in the subject). Contact: qsjobs@qs4it.com.

Other

Update on a public-private partnerships in the water sector (Senegal)

March 29, 2005: A public-private partnership (PPP) in water treatment and supply has been operating in Senegal since 1996, with Senegalaise des Eaux (SDE), a subsidiary of Saur International as the private element. The company does not own the water system but manages it on a ten-year lease contract with the Senegalese government. The contract is performance-based, which means that the government can fine the SDE Company if performance targets are not met. Now nine years down the road, the initial skepticism has already been overcome as the deficit in the water system has decreased and water cuts become rare. Special measures are also put in place to ensure that poor areas are not ignored either. Statistics from the World Bank show that between 1996 and 2003, water production has increased by 18 percent with 81,000 new household connections and 400 standpipes. For many in the water sector, the PPP in Senegal is functioning much better than a total privatisation of operations, and the Senegalese model is expected to be applied in other West African countries. The World Bank, which provided the bulk of the US \$300 million investment in the project in the form of government loans, appears satisfied with the project, noting that it is "a model of public-private partnership in sub-Saharan Africa." The current challenge facing Senegal itself, however, is to find a way to extend the success in urban areas to the poorer and sparsely populated



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countryside. The government's goal is to increase the rural population with adequate water supply from 56 percent currently to 82 percent by 2015. [Source: PPP News issue 42 - April 2005, Africa News (March 22, 2005)]

[Research on the current state of PRS monitoring systems](#) (December 2004)

This report reviews recent literature on monitoring Poverty Reduction Strategies. It discusses four challenging areas: institutional arrangements; the role of non-government organisations; implementation and intermediate output monitoring; and using results. The main findings are:

- Severe capacity constraints are not sufficiently acknowledged. International agencies should be less ambitious about what can be achieved and in what time frame.
- The “technical secretariats”, responsible for implementing monitoring, are of central importance. Their need for analytical skills is widely acknowledged, but expertise in data management, communication and marketing are also necessary.
- Building cooperation between ministries and agencies responsible for producing data is proving difficult. Success often depends on the status, capabilities and personalities of key people, not on formal mandates and frameworks.
- Unless countries have strong local monitoring systems, it is hard to see that building local PRS monitoring capacity should be an immediate priority, given the magnitude of this task.
- There is often confusion about the role of civil society in government monitoring systems. It is important that all stakeholders are aware of the involvement offered and that sufficient thought is given to the capacity, information access and influence required for civil society to perform their role.
- The “chains of causality” between policies and outcomes remain problematic. This leads to problems in identifying appropriate intermediate indicators. Given scarce resources, a focus on monitoring budget allocations – linked to a small set of basic provision indicators – may be a reasonable and realistic starting point.
- Administrative data provide essential information, but often not of sufficient quality for PRS monitoring. It is worth exploring possibilities for combining them with other sources to generate “best estimates”.
- Demand for PRS monitoring information, other than to meet donor requirements, is often very weak. Monitoring systems must include marketing and communication activities to build this demand.

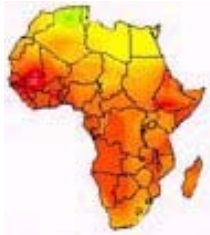
[Call for Papers - Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa](#)

The Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa (JSDA) is interested in manuscripts dealing with economic, socio-political and environmental issues surrounding biological diversity (biodiversity). For a couple of decades now, the global community has been confronted with the steady decline in the number of plant and animal species, habitats and genes. This deterioration has been due to haphazard development that paid little attention to conservation and preservation of natural resources. At the center of the problem is the matter of sustainability. The authors must address the issue of sustainability of biodiversity from their disciplinary perspectives or an interdisciplinary perspective. The deadline for submission is June 2005.

[Institutional Aspects of Renewable Natural Resources Governance and Management through Special Districts: Mali, Botswana, Namibia, and Malawi](#)

ARD and USAID recently issued a final report on research into institutional aspects of natural resource management. This research was based on eleven case studies of formal and non-formal special districts in Mali, Botswana, Namibia, and Malawi. Special districts are described as offering considerable promise as an institutional means to improve the governance and management of non-renewable natural resources in these countries. In each case, the special district is designed to enable renewable natural resources users and officials to apportion demand for the target resource to available supplies, to organize investments to enrich the resource, or both. According to the authors, renewable natural resources special districts are a work in progress, and will undoubtedly evolve considerably over the next 20 years as their utility becomes more apparent both to more individuals who qualify as “direct stakeholders”.... and to potential users. You can download a copy of the full report from the FRAME website. [Source: FRAMEgram Issue #7, April 2005]

[“Land Tenure for Drylands Development” E-conference](#)

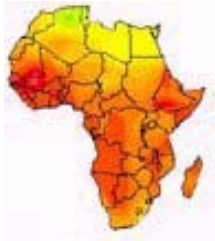


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FRAME recently co-hosted, with CAPRi, UNDP Drylands Development Center and the International Land Coalition, an electronic discussion on the theme of “Land Tenure for Drylands Development”. The four week discussion, which built off of a CAPRi/UNDP/ILC-hosted conference in Nairobi in February, attracted more than 300 participants. [Proceedings](#). The [e-conference summary document](#) is posted on the FRAME website. As a follow-on to the conference, CAPRi and FRAME will be collecting case studies on the theme of Land Tenure for Drylands Development. The case studies will contribute to a joint CAPRi, ILC and UNDP report. If you would like to contribute a case study, contact Denise Mortimer at dmortimer@irglt.com. [Source: FRAMEgram Issue #7, April 2005]

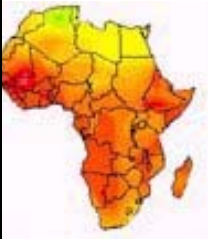
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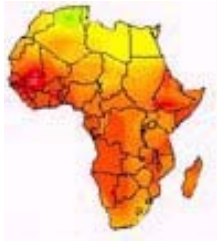
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| May 2005 | | |
| 3-5 May | Bissau, Guinea-Bissau | National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) Regional Workshop for Lusophone Countries |
| 10-11 May | Maputo, Mozambique | 3rd International Workshop on Open Access 2005 The goal of the workshop is to disseminate and discuss the concept of Open Communication and Open Networks, i.e. networks with modular network segments with open standardised interfaces allowing different actors to build networks together based on local economical opportunities. |
| 17-19 May | Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada | 8th International Conference on Remote Sensing for Marine and Coastal Environment |
| 22-26 May | Alger, Algeria | Séminaire International Nations Unies/Algérie/Agence Spatiale Européenne sur l'utilisation de la technologie spatiale pour la gestion des catastrophes : Prévention et gestion des catastrophes naturelles / United Nations - Algeria - European Space Agency Seminar on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management: Prevention and Management of Natural Disasters Contact: Mme Raechelle Newman, Bureau des Affaires Spatiales des Nations Unies (BAS): raechelle.newman@unvienna.org . |
| 24-27 May | Sesimbra, Portugal | ISESS 2005 (International Symposium on Environmental Software Systems) ISESS 2005 is the latest in a series of conferences and workshops that, since 1995, have provided a forum for presenting and discussing effective information processing techniques for environmental prediction and monitoring. |
| 26-27 May * NEW * | Tunis, Tunisia | Growth of Cities in the Maghreb over Time Contact: Center for Maghreb Studies in Tunis (CEMAT), cemat@planet.tn |
| 28-29 May * NEW * | Algers, Algeria | African Resource Management (ARM) Constellation User Requirements Workshop. Contact: Nassim Haned, Algeria Space Agency, h_nassim@hotmail.com |
| 30 May – 2 June | Estoril, Portugal | GIS Planet 2005 Contact: planet@gisplanet.org |
| 31 May – 3 June | Brest, France | International Marine Data and Information Systems Conference http://ioc3.unesco.org/iode/files.php?action=viewfile&fid=440&fcid=90 |
| June 2005 | | |
| 3-6 June * NEW * | Tetuan, Morocco | Information and Communication Technologies International Symposium (ICTIS'2005) |
| 6-8 June | Porto, Portugal | 25th EARSeL Symposium - Global Developments in Environmental Earth Observation from Space Followed by workshops on Remote Sensing of the Coastal Zone and 3D Remote Sensing |



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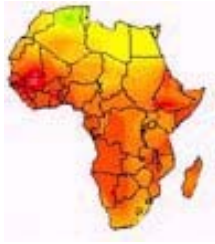
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| 6-10 June | Stockholm, Sweden | ISO/TC 211 20th Plenary Contact: Jörgen Wyke, Swedish Standards Institute, jorgen.wyke@sis.se |
| 6-12 June * NEW * | Entebbe, Uganda | Forum for agricultural research in Africa (FARA) - 3rd General Assembly . Contact: Monty P. Jones, Tel: +233 21 772 823/779 421, Fax: +233 21 773 676, E-mail: mjones@fara-africa.org |
| 9-11 June | Istanbul, Turkey | 2nd International Conference on Recent Advances in Space Technologies Space in the Service of Society (RAST 2005) |
| 14-16 June | Reston, Virginia, USA | Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) – Data Validation and Applications Abstracts for workshop presentations due April 15, 2005. |
| 16-18 June | Zaragoza, Spain | 5th International Workshop on Remote Sensing and GIS Applications to Forest Fire Management: Fire Effects Assessment |
| 16-18 June | Minneapolis, MN, USA | Open Source Geospatial '05 – MUM3/EOGEO Call for Presentations. Deadline: April 15, 2005 |
| 20-24 June | Angers, France | Colloque - Evaluation Environnementale et Developpement d'une Agriculture Durable |
| 20-24 June | St. Petersburg, Russia | 31st International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment "Global Monitoring for Sustainability and Security" |
| 29 June – 1 July | Sardinia, Italy | 11th EC-GI & GIS Workshop, European Spatial Data Infrastructure (ESDI): Setting the Framework Deadline for abstracts: 16 April 2005. |
| July 2005 | | |
| 3-6 July | Southampton, UK | Cambridge Conference: The Exchange – to be held at Ordnance Survey's head office in Southampton, UK. With a greater emphasis on networking and round-table discussions, CC:The Exchange is designed to strengthen relationships between national mapping organization senior representatives and to complement the 2007 Cambridge Conference. Contact: nmonetwork@ordnancesurvey.co.uk |
| 6-8 July | Mauritius | AITEC Indian Ocean - Mobilising ICTs for Development and Competitiveness in Mauritius, Madagascar, Reunion & Seychelles |
| 9-16 July | La Coruña, España | XXII ICA International Cartographic Conference . Call for abstracts . Abstracts due 1 November 2004. A limited number of travel awards will be made to young cartographers who are nationals from developing countries. |
| 18-22 July | Vancouver, Canada | GML Days 2005 - will be the fourth annual conference on the OGC Geography Mark-up Language (GML) and Web Services for GIS. Abstracts due: April 30, 2005. |
| 18-23 July | Tours, France | International Union for the Scientific Study of Population - XXV International Population Conference |
| 19-23 July | Elmina, Ghana | 1st Regional Biannual Conference of Africa Chapter of International Association of Landscape Ecology (Africa-IALE) Changing Landscapes of Africa: A Common Approach to Diverse Challenges (Paysages Changeants de l'Afrique: Une Approche Commune aux Défis Divers). Contact: hbulley@calmit.unl.edu ; http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/cd/ ; http://calmit.unl.edu/africa-iale/index.html ; Africa-iale mailing list |
| 24-29 July | San Diego, CA, USA | ESRI International User Conference |
| 31 July – 2 August | Cleveland, Ohio, USA | 4th Annual Public Participation GIS (PPGIS) Conference . Deadline for abstracts: March 11, 2005. |
| August 2005 | | |





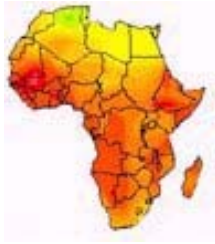
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| 16-17 September | Cambridge, U.K. | GEOMED 2005 is the fifth international, interdisciplinary conference on geomedical systems. GEOMED brings together statisticians, geographers, epidemiologists, computer scientists, and public health professionals to discuss methods of spatial analysis, as well as present and debate the results of such analyses. Deadline for abstracts: <u>15 May 2005</u> . |
| 19-23 September * NEW * | Goettingen, Germany | STORMA Symposium 2005 - The Stability of Rainforest Margins: Linking Ecological, Economic and Social Constraints of Land Use Conservation |
| 22-24 September * NEW * | Nairobi, Kenya | A planning workshops on Africa Network in Earth System Science – first announcement Contact: Professor Eric Odada, University of Nairobi, eodada@uonbi.ac.ke or Professor Coleen Vogel of Witwatersrand, South Africa, vogelc@geoarc.wits.ac.za . |
| 25-27 September | Magdeburg, Germany | Second International ICSC Symposium on Information Technologies in Environmental Engineering (ITEE'2005) The deadline for submission of papers is: <u>February 28, 2005</u> . |
| 26-28 September | Kuwait | Kuwait First International Remote Sensing Conference & Exhibition Deadline for abstracts: <u>June 30, 2005</u> . |
| October 2005 | | |
| 8-12 October | Kansas City, Missouri, USA | Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)'s 43rd Annual Conference Abstract deadline extended to: <u>February 11, 2005</u> |
| 9-13 October | Bonn, Germany | 6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community |
| 23-27 October | Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA | Pecora 16 - "Global Priorities in Land Remote Sensing" Deadline for abstracts: <u>February 15, 2005</u> . |
| 25-29 October | Kusadasi, Turkey | MEDCOAST 2005 – 7th International Conference on the Mediterranean Coastal Environment Deadline for abstracts: <u>January 31, 2005</u> . |
| 30 October – 4 November | Pretoria, South Africa | AFRICAGIS '05 7th bi-annual Africa GIS Conference. Theme: Beyond Talk: Geo-information working for Africa. This conference aims to take people beyond talking about what can be done with geo-information, to sharing information and experiences about what is being done on the continent and to showcase examples of where geo-information has made an impact on people's lives, particularly through local development and partnerships. Deadline for submission of abstracts: <u>15 April 2005</u> . |
| 31 October – 4 November * NEW * | Nairobi, Kenya | 11th World Lake Conference Theme: Management of Lake Basins for their Sustainable Use: Global Experiences and African Issues. Deadline for abstract: <u>April 15, 2005</u> . Contact: info@ileckenya.go.ke |
| November 2005 | | |
| 14-16 November | Tunis, Tunisia | IRFD World Forum on Information Society . Organized by the the International Research Foundation for Development. One of the Session Themes is Geographical Information System and Sustainable Information Society. Abstract deadline: <u>March 31, 2005</u> . Contact: wfis2005@irfd.org . |
| 16-18 November | Tunis, Tunisia | World Summit on the Information Society – 2 nd phase |
| 25-26 November * NEW * | Rabat, Morocco | 4th National Congress, Ordre National des Ingénierus Géomètres Topographes Theme: For a land administration policy serving development. Deadline for abstracts: <u>20 August 2005</u> . Contact: onigt@yahoo.fr |



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| 27 November – 2 December | Yaounde, Cameroon | Colloque Africain Systemes d'Information et Traitement de l'Image et du Signal (SITIS) / International Conference on Signal-Image Technology and Internet-Based Systems (SITIS'05) Deadline for abstract submission: May 15, 2005; proposals for tutorials due: June 15, 2005 . Contact: sitis@u-bourgogne.fr . |
| 28-29 November | Pretoria, South Africa | International Conference on the Changing Politics of Land in Africa Domestic Policies, Crisis Management, and Regional Norms Deadline for papers: April 30, 2005 . |
| December 2005 | | |
| 6-8 December * NEW * | Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt | Middle East and Africa Conference for ESRI Users Deadline for abstracts: 31 May 2005 . |
| 16-21 December | Cairo, Egypt | 13th International Conference of the Geological Society of Africa on Geology and Development . Local lead organisation, the Egyptian National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences (NARSS). Contact: Dr Mahmoud Abdeen, GSAf Vice-President (North Africa), m_m_abdeen@hotmail.com |
| January 2006 | | |
| February 2006 | | |
| March 2006 | | |
| 9-12 March 2006 | Accra, Ghana | 5th FIG Regional Conference for Africa Theme: "Promoting Land Administration and Good Governance". This conference is co-sponsored by UN FAO, UN-Habitat, UN ECA, RECTAS, ISM, etc. This conference will also be the first FIG regional conference in West Africa. The deadline for abstracts is 10 November 2005 . |
| 16-22 March 2006 | Mexico | 4th World Water Forum The main theme of the Forum will be "Local actions for a global challenge". A series of regional meetings will be held throughout the preparatory phase in order to identify good practices and learn lessons from shared experiences, as well as to support and encourage local commitments. Guiding principles, main objectives, framework themes and topic sessions available for comments in the concept paper . |
| April 2006 | | |
| May 2006 | | |
| 25-26 May 2006 | Orlando, Florida, USA | ISO/TC 211 22nd Plenary http://www.isotc211.org/ |
| June 2006 | | |
| July 2006 | | |
| 9-15 July 2006 | Philadelphia, PA, USA | IUSS 18th World Congress of Soil Science |
| 13-17 July 2006 | Wollongong and Sydney, Australia | COAST - GIS 06 - 7th International Symposium on GIS and Computer Cartography for Coastal Zone Management . GIS for the coastal zone: Spatial Data, Modelling and Management; Extending the Spatial Data Infrastructure. Collaboration between the International Cartographic Association's Commission on Marine Cartography and the International Geographical Union's Commission on Coastal Systems |
| 31 July – 4 August 2006 | Denver, Colorado, USA | IEEE/IGARSS 2006 |
| August 2006 | | |
| September 2006 | | |
| October 2006 | | |



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| 6-10 October 2006 * NEW * (dates have been revised) | Santiago, Chile | 9th International Conference on Global Spatial Data Infrastructure organized by the GSDI Association & Instituto Geográfico Militar . Contact: godi9@igm.cl |
| October 2006 | Cairo, Egypt | 6th African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE) Conference. Contact: aarse@rcmrd.org . |
| October 2006 | Beijing, China | 20th CODATA (Committee on Data for Science and Technology) Conference Contact: codata@dial.oleane.com . |
| November 2006 | | |
| 14-15 November 2006 | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia | ISO/TC 211 23rd Plenary http://www.isotc211.org/ |

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<http://www.godi.org>

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